

## Message Text

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44

ACTION EA-10

INFO OCT-01 NEA-09 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 /060 W

----- 023222

R 280855Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TOKYO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8995

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY KUWAIT

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

C O N F I D E N T I A L TOKYO 4047

DEPT PLS RPT TO MINIMIZE POST JIDDA

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SA, JA

SUBJECT: MIYAZAWA CONDOLENCE MISSION TO RIYADH

REFC TOKYO 3899

1. ACCORDING TO FIRST MIDDLE EASTERN DIVISION DIRECTOR WATANABE, FOREIGN MINISTER MIYAZAWA WILL DEPART FOR RIYADH THIS EVENING (MARCH 28) BY CHARTERED JET TO EXPRESS CONDOLENCES UPON DEATH OF KING FAISAL. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY HIS PRIVATE SECRETARY ARIMA, DEPTY FONMIN ARITA, MIDDLE EASTERN AND AFRICAN AFFAIRS DEPTY DIRECTOR GENERAL MURATA, AND FONOFF ARABISTS KIMURA AND ONO. MIYAZAWA WILL STAY ONLY LONG ENOUGH TO DELIVER MESSAGE OF CONDOLENCE, INCLUDING LETTER FROM PRIME MINISTER MIKI, AND WILL RETURN BY MARCH 30. GROUP WILL SLEEP ABOARD PLANE.

2. HIGH LEVEL OF MISSION IS EARNEST OF IMPORTANCE JAPAN ATTACHES TO RELATIONS WITH SAUDI ARABIA, AND SENSE OF CONFIDENTIAL

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REGRET BOTH OVER FAISAL'S DEATH AND FACT THAT GOJ HAD NOT

HAD OPPORTUNITY TO RECIPROCATATE PRINCE FAISAL'S VISIT TO JAPAN, WATANABE CONTINUED. DESPITE SUBSTANTIVE COMPETENCE OF DELEGATION ACCOMPANYING MIYAZAWA, MISSION WILL BE PURELY PROTOCOLAIRE, HE CONCLUDED.

3. WATANABE SSTRONGLY DENIED JAPANESE PRESS RUMORS THAT DECISION TO SEND HIGH-LEVEL GROUP WAS RESULT OF PRESSURE FROM ARABS, WHO REPORTEDLY TOOK INDIGNANT NOTE OF JAPAN'S LOW LEVEL REPRESENTATION AT FAISAL FUNERAL. DECISIONTOOK A WHILEE WATANABE ADMITTED, BUT WAS MADE SOLELY ON JAPAN'S INITIATIVE. ANY PRESS SPECULATION TO CONTRARY WAS "IRRESPONSIBLE".

4. COMMENT: JAPANESE MOVE APPEARS DESIGNED TO OFFSET IMPRESSION GIVEN BY ATTENDANCE ONLY OF CHARGE AT FUNERAL. AMBASSADOR SUZUKI WHO WAS SENT BACK TO SA IMMEDIATELY TO SURVEY SITUATION (REFTEL) MUST HAVE FOUND ARAB EMOTIONS STRONG AND SURMIZED THAT RISKS TO VITAL RELATIONSHIP ARISING OUT OF FAILURE TO MAKE GESTURE WERE VERY REAL.  
SHOESMITH

NOTE BY OC/T: NOT REPEATED JIDDA.

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** CONDOLENCE MESSAGES, MINISTERIAL VISITS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 28 MAR 1975  
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**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
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**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
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**Disposition Reason:**  
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**To:** STATE  
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